

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 /049 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AN:ARIMAS:BA
APPROVED BY EB/AN:RABROWN
CAB:FMURPHY
AF/W:ESVENDSEN

-----120925Z 007817 /22

R 112210Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: USG/GOL BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS

REF: MONROVIA 1562

1. DEPARTMENT REALIZES THAT THERE IS A COMMITMENT FOR CIVAIR CONSULTATIONS WITH GOL. HOWEVER, BEFORE SUGGESTING DATES WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY AND/OR CLARIFY THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS OUTSTANDING ISSUES TO MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE BEFORE RESUMING FORMAL CONSULTATIONS.

2. DURING LAST ROUND OF TALKS IN WASHINGTON, LIBERIAN DELEGATION WAS INFORMED THAT THE AIR NAVIGATION ARRANGEMENT OF JUNE 15, 1939 IS STILL IN EFFECT, BUT THAT SUITABLE AMENDMENTS COULD BE CONSIDERED TO UPDATE THE AGREEMENT. STANDARD TEXTS OF US AND LIBERIAN AGREEMENTS
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WERE ALSO EXCHANGED. BEFORE ARRANGING A FURTHER ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS, WE SUGGEST THAT EMBASSY OBTAIN FROM GOL THEIR INFORMAL VIEWS ON THE FEASIBILITY OF CONTINUING TO BASE OUR BILATERAL CIVAIR RELATIONS ON THE 1939 AGREEMENT. IF GOL WISHES TO IDENTIFY SOME SPECIFIC AREAS WHICH REQUIRE ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION, THEY SHOULD BE INVITED TO DO SO NOW SO THAT WE WOULD BE

ABLE TO RESPOND WITH SUITABLE AMENDMENTS. IF THE 1939 AGREEMENT IS FOUND BY GOL TO BE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE, DOES US STANDARD TEXT OF US AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT CONSTITUTE AN ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE? GOL'S DETAILED COMMENTS WITH REGARD TO SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF US TEXT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL. IF IT WERE NECESSARY TO DRAFT A NEW AGREEMENT, WE WOULD PREFER TO WORK ON BASIS OF US TEXT SINCE LIBERIAN TEXT HAS A NUMBER OF PROVISIONS WHICH WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH US INTERNATIONAL AVIATION POLICY.

3. EMBASSY MAY ALSO POINT OUT THAT ALTHOUGH USG IS COGNIZANT OF COMMITMENT TO CONSULT IN 1977, WE HOPE TO LAY AS MUCH GROUNDWORK AS POSSIBLE BEFORE ANY TALKS TAKE PLACE SO AS TO INCREASE PROSPECTS FOR A MUTUALLY FAVORABLE OUTCOME.

4. FYI. ALSO, US CIVAIR NEGOTIATING COMMITMENTS ARE ESPECIALLY HEAVY THIS YEAR IN VIEW OF SEVERAL MAJOR ONGOING TALKS (UK, JAPAN) AND WE WOULD LIKE TO REDUCE NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL CONSULTATIONS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. IF TALKS ARE SCHEDULED, WE HOPE THAT ABOVE EFFORTS WOULD HAVE RESULTED IN SHARPENING THE FOCUS OF DISCUSSIONS SO AS TO MAXIMIZE PROSPECTS OF CONCLUDING A SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT IS NOTED THAT PREVIOUS ROUND OF TALKS WERE MARKED BY TIME-CONSUMING CONVERSATIONS WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED IF LIBERIANS HAD BEEN BETTER PREPARED. END FYI.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AVIATION AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE055010
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ARIMAS:BA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770085-1021
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770367/aaaachdm.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5ea424b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MONROVIA 1562
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3130535
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: USG/GOL BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS
TAGS: EAIR, US, LI
To: MONROVIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5ea424b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009